
CONSERVATION AND NATURAL RESOURCES

The preservation of Maryland's natural resources, including her wildlife, was a matter of continuing concern to State government during this period. Added to the traditional problems facing conservationists were the ever-increasing perils of air and water pollution. The following selections indicate the Governor's interest in seeking solutions to these difficult problems.

REMARKS, DEDICATION OF ASSATEAGUE ISLAND BRIDGE

ASSATEAGUE ISLAND

September 25, 1964

It is good to be with my good neighbors of Worcester County who are making an accomplishment made possible by a splendid example of cooperation between State and county government.

It always has been the philosophy of this Administration that a strong county helps make a strong State. In this instance, the Assateague Island Bridge, desired for many years by Worcester County as a means of strengthening the county, was built with State and county planning, with State and county administration and with State and county funds. So, today we mark this accomplishment with pride in what has been done and hope for what remains to be done.

Assateague Island is perhaps one of the finest ocean beaches in our nation. It offers tremendous opportunity for seashore recreation and living. In an effort to see how important this island is to the State of Maryland, I would ask you to look at population figures. The Maryland-District of Columbia complex is growing rapidly as are most urban regions throughout the country. These urban regions have the jobs. The beach and rural areas have the space for recreation, the recreation that these millions seek.

Right now, Maryland has only eight miles of accessible ocean beach front, scarcely enough for the thousands upon thousands who seek ocean recreation now and for the many more thousands upon thousands who will seek it in the future. With Assateague Island adding about 22 additional miles to our accessible beachfront, we are taking